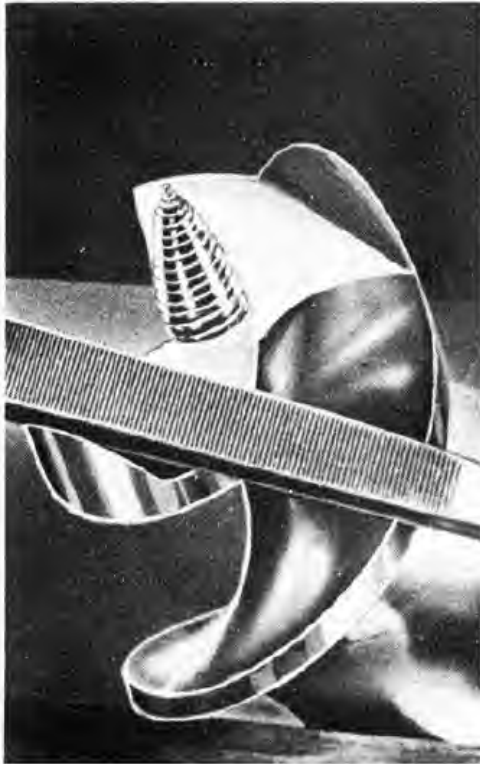


How To Sharpen Auger Bits

1. For best results, keep the lips and spurs of your bit sharp. This is the correct way to sharpen a spur. File it on the inside—never on the outside. Filing in on the outside would seriously impair the diameter of the hole to be bored and the smoothness of its wall. In filing the spur, reduce the inside face as well as the edge so as to preserve so far as possible the original proportions.



2. Here is how to sharpen the lip. File the underside of the lip—the side toward the shank. Never file the side toward the screw as this would decrease the cutting efficiency. File well back into the throat. Do not leave the edge too blunt but obtain a gradual taper. For both lips and spurs use a good "second cut" file. A half-round, three-cornered or safe-edge flat file will do as well.



3. After the auger bit has been sharpened, remove all possible loose metal that might still be on the surfaces. Keep the bit rust resistant by rubbing it with an oily cloth before putting it away. Be sure to get the oil well into the coils and the screw threads and on the cutting edges. Motor or machine oil will do. To brighten the screw, dip it in oil, then into fine emery and then bore into a piece of wood.



Photographs courtesy of Russell Jennings
Auger Bits, Stanley Tool Works.